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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/731,710	12/09/2003	Xian Yao	50547/CM/M277	5454
23363	7590	04/28/2006	EXAMINER	
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP			JENKINS, DANIEL J	
PO BOX 7068			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
PASADENA, CA 91109-7068			1742	

DATE MAILED: 04/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/731,710	YAO ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Daniel J. Jenkins	1742	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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1. The Examiner has carefully reviewed the prior rejection in light of the Interview of 3/30/06. The Examiner agrees that the prior rejection did not address the limitation to the ultra hard material. At this time, the Examiner makes a new rejection which is accordingly not made final.

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

3. Claims 1-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jurewicz in view of Bunting et al.

Jurewicz discloses the invention substantially as claimed.

Jurewicz discloses a method of making a composite body comprising:

- providing a high temperature and high temperature sintering apparatus;
- disposing a liner (13) within said enclosure (col. 3, lines 59-68) to form a blank;
- placing an ultra hard material (19) within said liner; and
- sintering the hard material fusing the metallic liner to the hard material.

Jurewicz further discloses wherein said liner is selected from a liner group comprising cobalt and iron materials.

However, Jurewicz is silent as to the material that the sintering apparatus is formed.

Bunting et al. teaches to enclose ultra hard containing blank in a refractory can (col. 3, lines 33-35) in the same field of invention in order to prepare the blank for high temperature and high pressure sintering in a contamination free environment.

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It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to place the blank of Jurewicz in order to sinter the blank in a contamination free environment.

Jurewicz further discloses wherein said ultra hard material is bonded to the liner.

Jurewicz is silent as to process conditions during sintering, broadly referring to the known processes in the art.

Bunting et al. further discloses temperature ranges that overlap the claimed range establishing a prima facie case of obviousness.

Jurewicz is silent as to mounting the composite body on a support, but it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to mount the formed composite body in order to provide stability to the cutter.

Jurewicz is silent as to the thickness of the liner, but the determination of the liner thickness would be determined by one of ordinary skill in the art based on the attachment requirements of the cutting insert to a support surface.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel J. Jenkins whose telephone number is 571-272-1242. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH6:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Roy King can be reached on 571-272-1242. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Daniel J. Jenkins
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1742

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